



**Announcement:**  
**Study of the United States Institute (SUSI)**  
**On Journalism and New Media for Student Leaders**  
**FY 2015**

The American Center at U.S. Embassy Dhaka is pleased to announce the Study of the United States Institute (SUSI) for Student Leaders program, which will take place in summer 2015. The SUSI program is a five week undergraduate exchange program sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State. This Institute is focused on journalism and new media, and will provide participants with a deeper understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a free press in American society.

This is an intensive short-term academic program whose purpose is to provide undergraduate student leaders with a deeper understanding of the United States while simultaneously enhancing their leadership skills. It will include an academic residency component of approximately four weeks and a domestic study tour of approximately one week. Academic sessions will examine First Amendment rights, editorial independence, journalistic ethics, legal constraints, civic journalism, and social/digital media. The Institute will also cover the basics of journalism tradecraft such as researching, reporting, writing, and editing, and will highlight the role of technology.

The program includes a balanced series of seminar discussions, readings, group presentations, and lectures. Coursework and classroom activities will be complemented by educational travel, site visits, leadership activities, and volunteer opportunities with the local community. The academic residency will be complemented by an educational tour that will take participants to another part of the United States where they will meet with local, state, private, and not-for-profit organizations working in the industry. The program will then conclude with two to four days in Washington, D.C.

Participants are expected to be highly motivated and exemplary undergraduate students from universities and other institutions of higher education. All students with an interest in new media are encouraged to apply. We look forward to applications from students in diverse fields, including, but not limited to, Journalism, Media, Literature, Graphic Design, Information Technology, Computer Science, International Relations, and Photography.

Candidates nominated for this program will:

- be a citizen of Bangladesh;
- have a strong interest in new media;
- be fluent in English;
- be between 18 and 25 years of age;
- be in their first through third year of undergraduate study at the time of application, with at least one semester left to complete *after* the SUSI program takes place;
- be committed to returning to their home universities following completion of the SUSI program;
- demonstrate strong leadership qualities and potential in their university and community activities;
- indicate a serious interest in learning about the United States;
- have a sustained high level of academic achievement, as indicated in grades, awards, and teacher recommendations;

- have demonstrated commitment to community and extracurricular university activities;
- have had little or no prior study or travel experience in the United States or elsewhere outside of their home country;
- be mature, responsible, independent, confident, open-minded, tolerant, thoughtful and inquisitive;
- be willing and able to fully participate in an intensive academic program, community service, and educational travel program; and,
- be comfortable with campus life, prepared to share living accommodations, and able to make adjustments to cultural and social practices different from those of their home country.

Soft copies of this announcement and the application form can be found at  
[http://dhaka.usembassy.gov/educational\\_cultural\\_exchanges.html](http://dhaka.usembassy.gov/educational_cultural_exchanges.html)

Application forms must either be typed or completed in clear handwriting. Please note that each application must include a letter of recommendation from either a department head or faculty dean and a passport size photograph.

The deadline for submission of completed applications to the American Center is **Thursday, December 11, 2014**. Late applications will not be accepted.

The location of the American Center is as follows:

**American Center  
U.S. Embassy Annex  
J Block, Progati Sharoni,  
Baridhara, Dhaka-1212  
(Opposite the U.S. Embassy and next to Notun Bazar)**

*Please note that the Embassy work week is Sunday to Thursday. Fridays and Saturdays are weekends.*

For further information, please contact Ms. Tahnia Shahid at the American Center (Telephone: (880) 2-5566-2808; email: [ShahidTX@state.gov](mailto:ShahidTX@state.gov))

Sincerely,

Bilal Faruqi  
Cultural Affairs Officer